

Focus on 5th



News and Events in the 5th Grade
February 28, 2011
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Important Dates

Feb. 28 - Mar 4	ISAT Testing Week
Mar 7	No School - Pulaski Day
Mar 9	Holmes School Reading Olympics Competition
Mar 10	Chorus Concert
Mar 11	Science Research Paper Due Today
Mar 12	PTO Silent Auction

Dear Families,

Thank you to our wonderful room parents who volunteered to bring in snacks this week. Due to your generosity, students will be provided with a snack before the ISAT testing so they can do their best on the test! Also, please try to help your child get plenty of rest the night before, provide opportunities for them to engage in physical activity every day after school and encourage them to put forth their best effort every day!

This week Edward became "Jangles" as he joined Bryce and Sarah Ruth's family. Although Edward has finally learned to love, his heart has been broken. Let's hope his luck changes next week as we complete our journey with Edward Tulane.

SPECIALS

Physical Education

We will be having our **7th Annual Holmes Parents Vs. Holmes Staff fundraiser basketball game**. The game will take place on **March 19, 2011** at Gwendolyn Brooks Middle School. It will start at 7pm. Admissions is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children and \$10 for a family of 3 or more.

Spanish

Students have started their new story, ***Carlos y los Tres Monstruos***. Students can read the story for 15 extra points. It is posted on the blog: <http://mpoleski.blogspot.com/p/quintofifth.html>

Art

Art Shows!!! There are two art shows happening this March. March is nationally recognized as Youth Art Month (YAM). The largest of the two shows is a District 97 art show featuring artwork from every school in D97, including the middle schools, at Oak Park River Forest High School. OPRF art students will be offering tours of the art department. Every class at Holmes has several artworks in the show. If your student has work in the show, you will be receiving a letter in the mail. Everyone is invited to come and see the great things happening in artrooms across the district. The show runs from 2/28-3/23. The opening reception is Wednesday March 9th from 6pm-7:30pm.

The second art show features Holmes students only and is happening at the Oak Park public library from 3/4-3/31. Again, each class will have artwork in the show. Come check it out! If you are unable to attend either show, you can always see what Holmes artists are doing by visiting <http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com>



Reading/Literature

Due to ISAT testing, students will not be given nightly homework this week, but reading every night for 30 minutes is always great practice! Also, if students did not finish their Pass It On project they should be working on it throughout the week. Students will present their projects to another homeroom on Friday, March 4th. Following ISAT week we will begin our second novel study. 5P and 5Y will read *Under the Blood Red Sun* and 5K and 5M will read *The Breadwinner*. As always, please let me know if you have any questions, suggestions or concerns (apeterson@op97.org).

Math

Students will begin the math sessions of the ISAT on Wednesday. Students may use calculators on all math sessions. If your child has his/her calculator at home, please remind your child to bring the calculator to school. There will be no math homework this week. Next week, we will begin our next unit, focusing again on fractions.

Science

Due to ISAT testing, students will only have science on Monday. Students should be working on their final draft of their disease research paper which is due Friday, March 11th. Students know that their final drafts must be typed. There are computers that students can use during study hall if they need to type their paper at school. Students should turn in their final drafts in the file folder they received two weeks ago along with their rubric, information sheet, source cards, outline and rough draft.

Social Studies

Last week, we learned about the War of 1812 and the Trail of Tears. *Smithsonian Magazine* has an excellent article this month titled "The Cherokees vs. Andrew Jackson." Online, the link is: <http://www.smithsonianmag.com>. The site includes an interactive map and a photo gallery. Although this week will be dominated by ISAT testing, we will tie in our study of the industrial revolution by creating and racing small paddlewheel boats in class and learning about Mark Twain with a reading and discussion of *The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County*.

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Visit us at:

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